

FOR IT IS GOD

*"FOR IT IS GOD WHICH WORKETH IN YOU BOTH TO WILL
AND TO DO OF HIS GOOD PLEASURE"*

(PHILIPPIANS 2:13)

What a blessing it is to hear the good pleasure of our Triune God, to learn from Him that He is the fountainhead of all our salvation:

For it is God... that chose me (JOHN 15:16).

For it is God... that called me (LUKE 5:32).

For it is God... that saved me (JOHN 10:28).

For it is God... that shed His precious blood for me (ACTS 20:28).

For it is God... that put away my sin (HEBREWS 9:26).

For it is God... that made me His righteousness (2 COR 5:21).

For it is God... that has redeemed me (COLOSSIANS 1:14).

I'm certain that if an elect child of God should be asked the reason he is saved, his answer will always commence with *For it is God* that saved me and not *For I...did this or that to be saved!*

The people of God plainly and clearly testify, *For it is God* that saved me, *For it is God* that made me to differ. This testimony comes forth from a new heart opened by the Lord himself, and he believes on Christ alone to be saved; and that—not as a condition, but rather ever so blessedly as the divine gift of His faith! [ACTS 16:14, GALATIANS 2:16, EPHESIANS 2:8-10, 1 JOHN 5:20]

What a miracle the new birth is, when a dead man is made alive to see his sin and to see the fullness of salvation found only in and through believing on Christ Jesus, the Son of God. [MARK 16:16, JOHN 6:47]

Who makes the difference between those who shall be saved and those who shall not? God makes the difference! By His good pleasure, from the beginning to right now and onto glory, salvation is of the Lord. If by His grace He has given you this salvation, this justifying faith (having already baptized you by His Spirit) He will give you a love to follow Him, indeed to follow Him in the waters of His baptism. Amen. [JONAH 2:9, 1 CORINTHIANS 4:7; 12:13, ACTS 2:38]

PASTOR

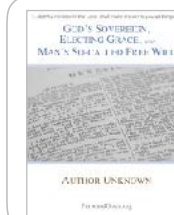
Beloved, *"...who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?"* (1 CORINTHIANS 4:7).

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 7th, 2019

*"So shall my word be that goeth forth
out of my mouth: it shall not return unto
me void, but it shall ACCOMPLISH
that which I please, and it shall prosper
in the thing whereto I sent it."*

(ISAIAH 55:11)



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Happy Birthday!

Pat Maddux - April 7th

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR TODD NIBERT

LUKE 4:16-21 — Two Things I Know

Recorded on Friday evening, February 22nd, 2019

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SAVED SINNER

"If we say that we have not sinned,

we make him a liar, and his word is not in us" (1 JOHN 1:10)

[Beloved], the believer knows, that "in the flesh no man can please God." Yes, the believer is still a sinner. My friend, if we do not understand this principle, if we don't understand and accept this fact, that the believer is not perfect; he is perfect in Christ. He is perfect in the Holiness of Christ. Thank God for that! Beloved [you're] complete in Christ, but [you're] not perfect in the flesh! Indeed, the believer doesn't go a day without sin. He doesn't go a day without a conflict of sin. He is never without sin, sinful thoughts and attitudes. [My friend] if you don't understand that, and face that, or admit it, one of two things will be the result.

If you don't admit that and you don't face that fact or understand it, then one of two things will happen. You are either going to lie to yourself, lie to others or lie to God in claiming you are without sin. If you claim to be without sin, you are lying to yourself and you are deceiving yourself. If you say you have no sin, you deceive yourselves. We are lying to ourselves, if we say we have no sin, we are lying to other people. *"If we say that we have not sinned, we make [God out to be] a liar"* (1 JOHN 1:10).

I encourage you, walk in the Spirit. Don't walk in the flesh. Strive against that old nature. Strive against that old flesh. Strive against that old sin. Mortify that flesh and put down that lust, envy, pride, anger and

jealousy; put it down! Push your flesh down and mortify it and press it down. It will be a constant battle. It will constantly come up again because you are still in the flesh and you are still a person. *"I write unto you little children, that you sin not, but if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father."* I think that word *"if"* ought to be said, *"when."*

God cannot and does not command you to sin. He commands you not to sin. The apostle has to command us not to. That is what the Word commands us. Don't sin. Fight it, mortify it, suppress it, and strive against it. But, when a man sins; *"We have an advocate with the Father."*

What is an advocate? [My friend,] an advocate is a mediator. An advocate is a lawyer. An advocate is one that pleads your case, and who pleads your cause. We have an advocate, we have a mediator. When we sin, we have somebody that can go to the Father for us. His name is Jesus Christ the Righteous.

Did you hear that? What did it say? *"If any man sin, we have an advocate,"* we have a mediator.

It does not say that "If any man sin, he is lost." It does not say, "If any man sin, he will have to get re-saved." It doesn't say, "If any man sin, he has forfeited his place in the Kingdom." It doesn't say, "If any man sin, he no longer has a mediator." It says, *"If any man sin, He has an advocate."*

My friend, a man who is not a sinner, does not need an advocate. A man who is not a sinner does not need a mediator. Maybe that is the reason so many people in my day are not coming to Christ. They are not believing on Christ or looking to Christ. They are trying to find salvation in a church, a profession, or a baptism. Maybe they aren't sinners.

I'm a sinner! [The pastor of this church is a sinner!] I need a mediator. It does not say, "If any man be Holy, he has an advocate." What does a holy man need with an advocate? It doesn't say, "If any man be perfect, he has an advocate." What does a perfect man need with an advocate? It says, "If any man *sins*, we have a mediator. We have an advocate with the Father who is Jesus Christ the Righteous." Now, that is a man that needs a mediator, that is a man who needs a Saviour.

I will tell you this; the gospel demands honesty. It is time for us to be honest before God. God does not show mercy to liars, those who deny they are sinners. No He doesn't. God is truth and we'll meet God in truth or we will meet God in judgment. [AMEN!]

PASTOR HENRY MAHAN